

WINDING UP GILLETTE CASE.

PROSECUTOR TIGHTENING THE TOILS AROUND HIM.

Proves That Injuries to Grace Brown's Body Were Not Made by a Jettison of the Wagon and Will Show by Doctors That She Met Death by Foul Play.

HERKIMER, Nov. 24.—The prosecution in the case of Chester Gillette, charged with the murder of Grace Brown, spent the session of the court to-day in gathering up the loose ends of its circumstantial evidence before sending the case to the medical experts who made the autopsy on the girl's body. The prosecutor has drawn the net of circumstantial evidence close around the prisoner, but in order to hold the net together he must have the fact deduced from the testimony of experts that Grace Brown's body showed conclusively that she met her death in a way other than by drowning or suicide.

Step by step the prosecution has traced the prisoner and the girl from the beginning of their journey until they embarked for the row on Big Moose Lake, from which the girl never returned alive. It has picked up Gillette on the other side of the tragedy and pointed to a number of circumstances which in view of the later developments are decidedly suspicious. It is necessary before the prosecution's case can go to the jury, however, that these circumstances shall be bound together by absolute proof that the girl met her death by foul play.

Five physicians will be called to the stand on Monday in an attempt on the part of the prosecution to show that Grace Brown's death was the result of injuries received before she ever went under the water of Big Moose Lake, and that when she went into the water she was either unconscious and unable to aid herself, or was already dead.

The half day session to-day was spent in an effort to point more strongly to some of the circumstances which the prosecution believes to be suspicious and to forestall a possible contention of the defense that the bruises on Grace Brown's body were due to its being transported in a wagon over a rough road from the Glenmore Hotel to Big Moose station. The prosecution has taken pains to forestall any line of defense which the prisoner's counsel may follow. It was learned to-day that Gillette has already undergone an examination into his sanity, and it is said that no evidences of mental unsoundness were found.

The prosecution's first witness, after Undertaker Getman had been recalled to tell of the identification of Grace Brown's body by her father, was John Denio, who drove Grace Brown's body from the Glenmore Hotel to Big Moose station. He said that the wagon in which he had transported the body had six springs and that the road over which he drove was "very rough."

"It was smooth and dry," he said; "there were no loose stones in the road, for they have men to pick them up, and there was no mud."

Mr. Thomas for the defense apparently talked to the witness in Big Moose in the summer.

"Did you not tell me last summer," he said, on cross-examination, "that you let your horses go fast from the hotel to the station?"

"I don't remember it; I drove slowly."

"Will you swear you didn't?"

"No, but I don't think I did."

Mr. Thomas asked a number of other questions, beginning with "Didn't you tell me, all of which the witness answered in the negative."

"What time did you start for the station?"

"About 6."

"What time did you arrive there?"

"Shortly before 7 o'clock."

"This gave the witness nearly an hour to cover a distance of two miles."

The prosecution then returned to the hat which had been picked up near the overturned boat. Royce K. Fuller, who had picked it up when he had found it in the water, said that the lining was out and two threads were hanging from under the hat band. One has still in the hat.

"What became of the other?" asked Mr. Ward.

"Mrs. Andrew Morrison pulled it out and threw it away."

Mrs. Morrison was called. She said she noticed the two threads in the hat, only the brim of which was wet when it came out of the water. One of these threads she had pulled out after her return to the hotel and had thrown it away. She thought it was about two and a half inches long.

Her cross-examination was one of the few things that gave the audience any amusement. Mrs. Morrison is a young woman, daughter of one of the prominent families of the Roxana Druse case, famous in this community.

"Did you measure that thread?" asked Mr. Thomas.

"Yes, with my eye."

"Did you use a tape measure?"

"No."

"You did not measure it then."

"Yes, I did. I made a mental measurement."

Mr. Thomas let the witness go.

The tennis racket was brought in again to be identified by Deputy Sheriff Ingraham, and Fred Abbott, the photographer who made the pictures which had been put in evidence, was called to the stand to identify the spots again.

A long cross-examination on the value of lenses and prospectives did not develop much positive information. The pictures were handed to the jury in spite of strenuous objections by the defense.

Sheriff Richards, the only witness who contributed to the case on the day's testimony, was recalled. He said that the defendant had told him that the racket had cost \$6 and was new when he left Cortland.

"Did he talk to you about the evidence?"

"Yes, I told him that Mr. Thomas had been assigned to his case and he asked me if he was a good lawyer. I said that he was one of the best in Herkimer county. He said that he thought he ought to have another lawyer. He was pretty smart, and had found things which he thought he would not find."

Mr. Thomas objected to the answer going in evidence.

"I only want the last part in," said the District Attorney.

"Oh, no," replied Mr. Thomas, "if any of it goes in I would like to have the Sheriff's puff of me spread in the records. I may need a recommendation some day."

Mr. Thomas got after the Sheriff hammer on long on cross-examination.

"How long after you found this out from the boy did you tell it to the District Attorney?" he asked.

"Next time I saw him."

"Then you talked to the prisoner under your charge to find out things for the District Attorney?"

"I did find out things."

"You wanted to find out things that would help to convict him?"

"I suppose so."

"Did you tell him everything that Gillette told you?"

"No."

"You did not tell him things which Gillette told you that might tend to help him?"

"Gillette never told me anything that might help him."

The counsel asked the Sheriff a number of questions to show that he had been out of the county in the lumber country while he was in office as Sheriff.

The last act of the day was the production of a map which Gillette had in his suit case and which the jury examined with a great show of interest.

Court Judge for Thomas F. Buttins.

Judge Aspinall and Crane of the County Court in Brooklyn have appointed Thomas F. Buttins, a brother of former Sheriff William J. Buttins, captain of the court officers of Part I, at a salary of \$2,400 a year.

Mr. Buttins was naturalized clerk in the County Court before the new naturalization law went into operation.

DENIAL BY GOV. STOKES.

Drawn Out by Assertions Made in Quarrel Between Newark Officials.

The name of Gov. Stokes of New Jersey was dragged yesterday into an acrimonious controversy that has disturbed the harmonious relations hitherto existing between the offices of the Sheriff and Prosecutor of Essex county.

The controversy has arisen out of a raid made several days ago by detectives attached to the Prosecutor's staff on an alleged disorderly house conducted by a man named Richard Herman, at Washington avenue and Mill street, Belleville. It was learned after the arrest of the persons found in this house that Herman and some of the inmates, young women, had been in the employ of Sheriff Sommer, or had been under surveillance by his officers, who wanted them as witnesses in the Grand Jury investigations of the conditions that prevail in the Newark police department, in connection with the existence of vice in that city, against which the Sheriff has been conducting a crusade for several months.

It was intimated that Under Sheriff Charles Mason, the Sheriff's chief of staff, had guaranteed protection to Herman and the inmates of the Belleville house while Prosecutor Young has several affidavits containing statements that it is asserted, hear out the charges of maintaining a disorderly house made against Herman.

Mason yesterday intimated that the affidavits and the arrests were part of a conspiracy against Sheriff Sommer and that the alleged conspiracy was brought to a head at this time because the Sheriff is ill and under a physician's care at Atlantic City, and therefore not in a position to defend himself and his officers.

Mason further declared that efforts had been made at the time the Sheriff inaugurated his vice crusade to get him to resign. He said that an offer of a place on the bench of the Supreme Court of the State was made to Mr. Sommer if he would resign the office of Sheriff.

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